

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The government has recently made provisions for certain concessions in the field of private enterprise, but has not advertised the provisions. These are allegedly in force and would allow a few chosen citizens to:
 - a. Engage in the selling of a few articles in common use and of slight value (with the exception of foods, to which the government pays particular attention); and
 - b. Act as representatives of foreign commercial and industrial firms.
2. The citizens who would benefit by these concessions would be those who were disabled for the cause of the regime, former partisans, veterans, persons who were persecuted politically during the former regime, and persons incapable of working in the collectives either for physical reasons or because of age limitations. Only about 20 persons will be authorized to engage in this activity, and all pre-1944 "big businessmen" will allegedly be excluded from the benefits.
3. The saleable articles allegedly will be artisans' products and hardware. These articles are to be delivered by private artisans according to norms and prices stabilized by the government, and are to be constructed with State-controlled raw materials which are allegedly available in very limited quantities.
4. The total lack of representation by foreign commercial and industrial firms is greatly felt at present. The few privileged persons allowed to exercise this function are "business procurers" rather than representatives.
5. The importance of these conciliatory provisions is very limited, since commercial activity will not regain the free character necessary for widespread benefits. The tactics of reserve adopted by the government show the firm desire of the government to evade publicity and to save prestige.

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